

### **Remarks and Arguments**

Claims 1-29 have been presented for examination. Claims 1-3, 6, 9-11, 14, 17-18, 21-24 and 27 have been amended.

Claims 1-29 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for lack of antecedent bases. Specifically, claim 1 has been rejected for a lack of antecedent basis for the term “federated bean” in lines 3-4. In response, claim 1 has been amended, in line 4, to recite “first federated bean.” This term finds antecedent basis in claim 1, line 3. Similar changes have been made in claim 9, line 4; claim 17, line 6, claim 21, line 7 and claim 22, line 6.

Claim 1 has also been rejected for a lack of antecedent basis for the term “lookup service” in lines 7 and 10. In response, claim 1 has been amended at line 2 to change the term “distributed lookup system” originally recited to “distributed lookup service.” Claim 1 has also been amended at lines 8 and 11 to refer to the “distributed lookup service” now recited in line 2. It is believed that these changes provide proper antecedent basis for all terms recited in claim 1.

Dependent claims 2, 3 and 6 have been amended, in lines 4-5, 3 and 2, respectively, to refer to the “distributed lookup service” recited in claim 1, line 2. These claims are also believed to have proper antecedent basis for all recited terms.

Claim 9 has also been rejected for a lack of antecedent basis for the term “lookup service” in lines 7 and 10. In response, claim 9 has been amended at line 2 to change the term “distributed lookup system” originally recited to “distributed lookup service.” Claim 9 has also been amended at lines 8 and 11 to refer to the “distributed lookup service” now recited in line 2. It is believed that these changes provide proper antecedent basis for all terms recited in claim 9.

Dependent claims 10, 11 and 14 have been amended, in lines 4-5, 3 and 2, respectively, to refer to the “distributed lookup service” recited in claim 9, line 2. These claims are also believed to have proper antecedent basis for all recited terms.

Claim 17 has also been rejected for a lack of antecedent basis for the term “lookup service” in lines 10 and 13. In response, claim 17 has been amended at line 2 to change the term “distributed lookup system” originally recited to “distributed lookup service.” Claim 17 has also been amended at lines 10 and 13 to refer to the “distributed

lookup service” now recited in line 2. It is believed that these changes provide proper antecedent basis for all terms recited in claim 17.

Dependent claim 18 has been amended, in lines 5 and 7 to refer to the “distributed lookup service” recited in claim 17, line 2. This claim is also believed to have proper antecedent basis for all recited terms.

Claim 21 has also been rejected for a lack of antecedent basis for the term “lookup service” in lines 9 and 12. In response, claim 21 has been amended at line 5 to change the term “distributed lookup system” originally recited to “distributed lookup service.” Claim 21 has also been amended at lines 11 and 14 to refer to the “distributed lookup service” now recited in line 5. It is believed that these changes provide proper antecedent basis for all terms recited in claim 21.

Claim 22 has also been rejected for a lack of antecedent basis for the term “lookup service” in lines 7 and 10. In response, claim 22 has been amended at line 2 to change the term “distributed lookup system” originally recited to “distributed lookup service.” Claim 22 has also been amended at lines 8 and 11 to refer to the “distributed lookup service” now recited in line 2. It is believed that these changes provide proper antecedent basis for all terms recited in claim 22.

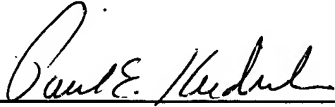
Dependent claims 23, 24 and 27 have been amended, in lines 4 and 6, 3 and 2, respectively, to refer to the “distributed lookup service” recited in claim 22, line 2. These claims are also believed to have proper antecedent basis for all recited terms.

Claim 21 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as directed to non-statutory subject matter. In response, claim 21 has been amended along the lines suggested by the examiner in lines 2-3 to recite “A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave embedded in a computer readable medium, wherein a processor reads the data signal in the medium and performs program code read from the data signal...” It is believed that claim 21, as amended, now recites statutory subject matter.

In light of the forgoing amendments and remarks, this application is now believed in condition for allowance and a notice of allowance is earnestly solicited. If the examiner has any further questions regarding this amendment, he is invited to call applicants' attorney at the number listed below. The examiner is hereby authorized to

charge any fees or direct any payment under 37 C.F.R. §§1.17, 1.16 to Deposit Account number 02-3038.

Respectfully submitted



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